

Serial No.: 09/600,593

Please amend the first paragraph on Page 8 as follows.

Sub 41 > A steering shaft double-cross universal joint according to the invention is represented in Figures 1 and 2. The joint consists of a coupling case 8 and a tubular dual fork 8, respectively, in which two joint crosses 9 are mounted for movement. The shaft ends 2 and 3 are jointed on one another by means of the forks 4 and 6 which are journaled on the joint crosses 9, and by means of a ball joint. The ball joint includes a ball 5 mounted to one shaft end 2, 3 and a socket 7 mounted to the other shaft end 2, 3. The ball 5 is resiliently mounted for rotation about its center point in the socket 7 and is slidingly moveable in the direction of the shaft axis of the other shaft end 2, 3. Bellows can protect the joint against dirt.

Please amend the first full paragraph on page 10 as follows:

Sub 42 > In Figure 3 it is furthermore to be seen that the plate springs 31 are held advantageously in an annular chamber 34 which is formed at the end of fork 6 at a shaft end. In the upper half of the figure the tumbler guide means 7, 30, is provided with a flange 33 which serves as a spring abutment and is urged against another flange 41 configured as a holding lip or claw, so that, in the rest position, it is aligned axially with the shaft axis. The flange 41 furthermore holds the friction bearing in an axial position.

Please amend the last paragraph on page 10 as follows:

Sub 43 > In the bottom half another variant of the tumbler sleeve mounting is shown; here the tumbler sleeve 7, 30 is urged by a spring or springs 31 abutting flange 33 on the tumbler side against the flange 35 on the fork side. The springs 31 in that case thrust against the flange 41 forming the chamber 34; for assembly they are held on the socket 7. In this manner, as shown in Figure 3, the tumbler sleeve 7, 30 (or the socket 7, 30) is resiliently pivotably mounted to the other shaft end and resiliently supported in the axial direction, so that the tumbler sleeve 7, 30 can tumble resiliently about the shaft axis when subjected to a radial force. The bushing 11 is advantageously affixed to the tumbler socket 7 by holding means 32, 32.2. Advantageously this is accomplished by rim 32, at